United Nations S/PRST/2004/35

Security Council

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12 October 2004

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5056th meeting of the Security Council, held on 12 October 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the items entitled "The situation in Afghanistan", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the presidential election that took place on 9 October 2004 in Afghanistan, stresses its historic importance as a milestone in the political process, and congratulates the millions of Afghan voters, many of them women and refugees, who showed their commitment to democracy by participating in the first popular election of their Head of State. The Council welcomes further the broad political representation, as manifested by the 18 presidential candidates. The Council commends the Afghan National Police and the Afghan National Army for their role, with the assistance of the international security forces, in bolstering security during the election period.

"The Security Council appreciates the effort of the Joint Electoral Management Body (JEMB) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) for their excellent achievement in the preparations of the presidential election. The Security Council appreciates the JEMB's efforts to address any candidate's concerns and to further enhance the transparency of the electoral process, and looks forward to a final statement.

"The Security Council urges the government of Afghanistan, with the help of the international community, to continue to confront the challenges that remain in Afghanistan, including security, timely preparation of the parliamentary elections in April 2005, the reconstruction of institutions, the fight against narcotics, and the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration of Afghan militias.

"The Security Council calls upon the Afghan authorities to plan and carry out without delay inclusive parliamentary elections and calls upon the international community to support them in completing the electoral process set out in the Bonn Agreement.

"The Security Council pledges its continued support for the government and people of a sovereign Afghanistan as they rebuild their country, strengthen

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the foundations of constitutional democracy, and assume their rightful place in the community of nations, and calls upon the international community, with the United Nations in a central role, to support them in these efforts."

United Nations S/PRST/2004/36

Security Council

Distr.: General
19 October 2004

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5058th meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 October 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 3 October 2004 (S/2004/777) on the implementation of resolution 1559 (2004) of 2 September 2004.

"The Security Council takes note of the letter from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon dated 5 October (S/2004/794) and of the note verbale from the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic dated 6 October 2004 (S/2004/796).

"The Security Council reaffirms its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized border.

"The Council notes with concern that the requirements set out in resolution 1559 (2004) have not been met, as reported by the Secretary-General. The Council urges relevant parties to implement fully all provisions of this resolution, and welcomes the Secretary-General's readiness to assist the parties in this regard.

"The Security Council appreciates the Secretary-General's intention to keep the Council updated. It requests that he continue to report on the implementation of the resolution to the Council every six months."

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Security Council

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19 October 2004

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5059th meeting of the Security Council, held on 19 October 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Threat to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the briefing by the Chairman of the CTC on the work of the Committee.

"The Security Council reaffirms that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and security and that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, whenever and by whomsoever committed.

"The Security Council recalls the statement by its President on 19 July 2004 (S/PRST/2004/26), resolution 1535 (2004), which indicated the Council's intention to review the structure and activities of the CTC and resolution 1566 (2004) emphasizing additional measures aimed at strengthening international cooperation in combating terrorism.

"The Security Council invites the CTC to pursue its agenda as set out in the work programme for the CTC's thirteenth 90-day period (S/2004/820) focusing on practical measures to implement resolution 1535 (2004) on the revitalization of the Committee, including implementation of the organizational plan for the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate, and resolution 1566 (2004). These measures will embrace further work to increase the Committee's capacity, including through enhanced cooperation with the Al-Qaeda/Taliban Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

"The Security Council notes the importance of continuing the CTC's efforts to enhance the capabilities of Member States to combat terrorism; to identify and address the problems faced by States in implementing resolution 1373 (2001); to facilitate the provision of technical assistance adjusted to the countries' needs; to encourage the largest possible number of States to become parties to the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, and to strengthen its dialogue and cooperation with international, regional and sub-regional organizations acting in the areas outlined by resolution 1373 (2001).

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"The Security Council invites the CTC to continue preparing and begin sending to Member States assessments of their assistance needs for eventual sharing with interested donor States and organizations, and to accelerate the preparations for the first visits to Member States with their consent in order to enhance the monitoring of the implementation of resolution 1373 (2001) and facilitate the provision of technical and other assistance for such implementation.

"The Security Council, recalling paragraph 7 of resolution 1566 (2004) invites the CTC to start, in consultation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and UN bodies, to develop a set of best practices to assist States in implementing the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001) related to the financing of terrorism.

"The Security Council notes that, as of 30 September, 2004, 78 States had not submitted their respective reports to the CTC on time as set out in resolution 1373 (2001). It calls on them urgently to do so, in order to maintain the universality of response which resolution 1373 (2001) requires.

"The Security Council invites the CTC to continue reporting on its activities at regular intervals and expresses its intention to review the structure and activities of the CTC in January 2005."

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Security Council

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26 October 2004

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5064th meeting of the Security Council, held on 26 October 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Somalia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"1. The Security Council reaffirms its previous resolutions and the statements of its President concerning the situation in Somalia, in particular resolution 1558 (2004) of 17 August 2004 and the statement by its President (S/PRST/2004/24) dated 14 July 2004.

"2. The Security Council reiterates its commitment to a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the situation in Somalia, and its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia, consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

"3. The Security Council commends the recent progress made at the Somali national reconciliation conference in Nairobi, including the establishment of the Transitional Federal Parliament of Somalia and the subsequent election of the Speaker of the Parliament and Transitional President, which are important steps towards the re-establishment of peace and stability in Somalia.

"4. The Security Council, underscoring the importance of consolidating the gains made so far, looks forward to the formation, in the near future, of a Transitional Federal Government inside Somalia, capable of beginning reconciliation and reconstruction in a spirit of consensus and dialogue with all the Somali parties.

"5. The Security Council, in this regard, encourages the Transitional Federal Parliament and the President to take further steps to select a Prime Minister and an efficient and effective Cabinet, and to develop a preliminary programme of action and timetable for the transitional period. The Council urges the transitional federal institutions to involve women fully in post-conflict reconciliation and reconstruction. The Council also notes the ongoing discussion to outline possible coordination mechanisms between the transitional federal government and the international community.

"6. The Security Council commends member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), in particular the

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Government of Kenya, as well as other countries and organizations for constructively supporting the Somali national reconciliation process for the past two years, and encourages them to continue their efforts in support of the cause of peace in Somalia.

"7. The Security Council welcomes and expresses its support for the commitment of the African Union to assist the transitional process in Somalia, in particular through planning for a Peace Support Mission to Somalia, including options for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, and encourages the international donor community to contribute to these efforts.

"8. The Security Council further welcomes the efforts of the United Nations Political Office, the United Nations Country Team, the Somalia Aid Coordination Body, the European Union, the IGAD Partners Forum, the League of Arab States and others engaged in developing a peace-building framework leading to the formation of a rapid assistance package and calls on the international community to support this package as well as emergency rehabilitation and economic development programmes as security returns to Somalia.

"9. The Security Council shares the Secretary-General's assessment that, 'at this stage of progress in the Somali peace process, there will likely be a call for an expanded peace-building role and presence for the United Nations, in order that it may assist the Somali parties in implementing their agreement. At the same time, it is clear that any enhanced role for the Organization in Somalia must be incremental, and should be based on the outcome of discussions with the new government.' The Security Council looks forward to the Secretary-General's recommendations in this regard.

"10. The Security Council urges the Somali leaders to create a favourable environment for the future Transitional Federal Government by making determined efforts to bring about improvements in the security situation on the ground and reiterates that those who persist on the path of confrontation and conflict will be held accountable. The Council will continue to monitor the situation closely."

United Nations S/PRST/2004/39

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 October 2004

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5067th meeting of the Security Council, held on 28 October 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Central African Republic", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

Central African Republic
Draft Presidential Statement

"The Security Council commends the Central African authorities, the political parties and civil society of the Central African Republic for the efforts they have made for the ongoing success of the transition process. The Security Council welcomes in particular the spirit of consensus which the Central African parties have shown and which attests to their determination to continue the transition process to the end.

"The Security Council encourages the Central Africans to continue their efforts to ensure the success of the constitutional referendum in November and the satisfactory organization of free, transparent and democratic presidential and legislative elections in January 2005.

"The Security Council also pays tribute to the United Nations system in the Central African Republic and in particular to the Secretary-General's Representative, General Lamine Cissé, for his work at the head of the United Nations Peace-building Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) and reaffirms to him its full support. The Security Council is pleased that the Secretary-General intends to renew the BONUCA mandate until 31 December 2005.

"The Security Council welcomes the assistance provided by the international community to the stabilization and recovery of the Central African Republic as well as the considerable efforts made by the member states of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) in the political, economic and security fields.

"The Security Council calls upon international donors and the international financial institutions to continue to provide resolute support to the Central African Republic, including on the preparation of the upcoming legislative and presidential elections. It also emphasizes that their support will

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be essential for the country's economic and social recovery and encourages them to formulate in close consultation with relevant development agencies and with the Government of the Central African Republic a concerted development strategy for the country.

"However, the Security Council expresses its concern at the deterioration of the state's finances and of the public sector, and calls on the Central African authorities to act with determination in order to address this situation.

"The Security Council reiterates its full support for the CEMAC multinational force and calls for the continuation of the restructuring of the Central African Republic's defence and security forces.

"The Security Council also encourages the Central African authorities to continue to combat with determination human rights violations.

"The Security Council again expresses its concern at the possible consequences to the Central African Republic of the crises in the subregion. Accordingly, it welcomes with satisfaction the Secretary-General's initiative in asking BONUCA to assess the implications of developments in neighbouring countries on the situation in CAR and vice versa."

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Security Council

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28 October 2004

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5066th (resumed) meeting of the Security Council, held on 28 October 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Women and peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), and welcomes the increasing focus on the situation of women and girls in armed conflict since the adoption of resolution 1325 (2000) in October 2000. The Council recalls the Statement by its President of 31 October 2002 (S/PRST/2002/32) and the meeting held on 29 October 2003 as valuable demonstrations of that commitment.

"The Security Council also recalls the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) and the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular the commitments concerning women and armed conflict.

"The Security Council welcomes the Report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security (S/2004/814) and expresses its intention to study its recommendations. The Council welcomes the efforts of the United Nations system, Member States, civil society and other relevant actors, to promote the equal participation of women in efforts to build sustainable peace and security.

"The Security Council strongly condemns the continued acts of gender-based violence in situations of armed conflict. The Council also condemns all violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed conflict and the use of sexual exploitation, violence and abuse. The Council urges the complete cessation by all parties of such acts with immediate effect. The Council stresses the need to end impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking peace, justice, truth and national reconciliation. The Council welcomes the efforts of the United Nations system to establish and implement strategies and programmes to prevent and report on gender-based violence, and urges the Secretary-General to further his efforts in this regard. The Council requests the Secretary-General to ensure that human rights monitors and members of commissions of inquiry have the necessary expertise and training in gender-based crimes and in the conduct of investigations, including in a culturally sensitive manner favourable to the

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needs, dignity and rights of the victims. The Council urges all international and national courts specifically established to prosecute war-related crimes to provide gender expertise, gender training for all staff and gender-sensitive programmes for victims and witness protection. The Council emphasizes the urgent need for programmes that provide support to survivors of gender-based violence. The Council further requests that appropriate attention is given to the issue of gender-based violence in all future reports to the Council.

"The Security Council reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention of conflict and supports the Secretary-General's intention to develop a comprehensive system-wide strategy and action plan for increasing attention to gender perspectives in conflict prevention. The Council urges all relevant actors to work collaboratively, including through strengthened interaction with women's organizations, to ensure the full participation of women and the incorporation of a gender perspective in all conflict prevention work.

"The Security Council also welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to develop a comprehensive strategy and action plan for mainstreaming a gender perspective into all peacekeeping activities and operations and to incorporate gender perspectives in each thematic and country report to the Council. In support of this process, the Council reaffirms its commitment to integrate fully gender perspectives into the mandates of all peacekeeping missions. The Council recognizes the contribution of the gender adviser within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to advancing the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), and requests the Secretary-General to consider an equivalent arrangement within the Department of Political Affairs to further support such implementation.

"The Security Council considers that an increase in the representation of women in all aspects of conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peace-building operations and humanitarian response is urgently needed. To that end, the Council urges the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to identify suitable female candidates, including, as appropriate, from troop-contributing countries, in conformity with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations and taking into account the principle of equitable geographical balance. Such efforts should include the implementation of targeted recruitment strategies and also seek to identify candidates for senior level positions, including in the military and civilian police services.

"The Security Council recognizes the vital contribution of women in promoting peace and their role in reconstruction processes. The Council welcomes the Secretary-General's intention to develop strategies to encourage women's full participation in all stages of the peace process. The Council also requests the Secretary-General to encourage gender mainstreaming in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes by developing guidelines to increase attention to the needs of women and girls in such programmes. The Council further requests the Secretary-General to mainstream a gender perspective in all aspects of post-conflict reconstruction programmes, including through the strengthening of gender theme groups in countries emerging from conflict, and to ensure that all policies and programmes in support of post-conflict constitutional, judicial and legislative

reform, including truth and reconciliation and electoral processes, promote the full participation of women, gender equality and women's human rights.

"The Security Council recognizes the important contribution of civil society to the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) and encourages Member States to continue to collaborate with civil society, in particular with local women's networks and organizations, in order to strengthen implementation. To that end, the Council welcomes the efforts of Member States in implementing resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level, including the development of national action plans, and encourages Member States to continue to pursue such implementation.

"The Security Council recognizes that significant progress has been made in the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in certain areas of the United Nations peace and security work. The Council expresses its readiness to further promote the implementation of this resolution, and in particular through active cooperation with the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. In order to further consolidate this progress, the Council requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Security Council in October 2005 an action plan, with time lines, for implementing resolution 1325 (2000) across the United Nations system, with a view to strengthening commitment and accountability at the highest levels, as well as to allow for improved accountability, monitoring and reporting on progress on implementation within the United Nations system."

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Security Council

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2 November 2004

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 5069th meeting of the Security Council, held on 2 November 2004, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Guinea-Bissau", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses its deep concern at developments in Guinea-Bissau that led to the killings, on 6 October 2004, of the Armed Forces Chief of Staff, General Verissimo Correia Seabra, and of the Chief of Human Resources, Colonel Domingos de Barros. The Council condemns in the strongest terms such use of force to settle differences or address grievances and, bearing in mind the position of the African Union on unconstitutional changes of government, as stated in the 1999 Algiers Declaration and the 2000 Lomé Declaration, calls upon the Guinean-Bissau parties to refrain from attempting to seize power in Guinea-Bissau by force.

"The Security Council takes note of the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding, in Bissau, on 10 October 2004, and of the establishment of a commission to monitor its implementation, and underlines that the Government of Guinea-Bissau and national authorities must remain committed to the promotion of the rule of law and to the fight against impunity, including when considering ways of implementing the above mentioned agreement.

"The Security Council urges all political parties to continue working, in good faith, with national authorities to complete the implementation of the Transitional Charter before the holding of presidential elections by April 2005.

"The Security Council reaffirms that peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau are critical for peace and security in the West African subregion. As the Government of Guinea-Bissau tackles the military, political, institutional and economic problems that are responsible for recurrent political turmoil and instability in Guinea-Bissau, the Council underlines the importance of addressing their root causes as well as finding immediate solutions to improve the situation in the short term.

"The Security Council stresses the need for urgent measures by the international community to assist the Government of Guinea-Bissau to overcome the present crisis, in particular to reinforce the capacity of legitimate authorities to maintain political stability and to determine sound solutions to the country's most urgent and fundamental challenges, particularly the

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restructuring of the Armed Forces, strengthening of the State and its institutions and promotion of social and economic development.

"The Security Council welcomes the timely financial support already provided by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and its members to the Government of Guinea-Bissau towards the payment of salary arrears due to military personnel. The Council calls upon international donors to contribute urgently to the Government of Guinea-Bissau's budget for civil service and military salaries and also encourages them to contribute to the Emergency Economic Management Fund for Guinea-Bissau, managed by the UNDP.

"The Security Council also takes note, with appreciation, of the recent visit of a Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) fact-finding mission to Guinea-Bissau.

"The Security Council reiterates its call on the international community to maintain its confidence in the process of democratic consolidation in Guinea-Bissau and to uphold its commitments to development in that country, particularly through its active preparation and participation in the Round Table Conference scheduled to take place next December, in Brussels.

"The Security Council reaffirms its full support for the Representative of the Secretary-General in Guinea-Bissau and indicates its intention to consider suitable ways of improving the role of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) in the promotion of peace and security, as well as in the coordination of efforts aiming at social and economic development in the country.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to submit to the United Nations, in his next report on UNOGBIS and the situation in Guinea-Bissau, suggestions on what contribution the United Nations could make towards an active and coordinated international effort to assist Guinea-Bissau."